

# CROSSSECTION



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## Special points of interest:

- Winter pollution prevention
- Local schools learning about natural resources
- Annual meeting award recipients and election results
- Early look at spring tree sale offerings

2005 Tree Seedling Sale Information is on pages 3 and 4 of this issue!



## GETTING WHAT YOU WANT OUT OF YOUR FOREST

Landowners wishing to improve their forestry resources for timber management, wildlife habitat, soil conservation or watershed protection may want to consider investigating possible cost-share dollars available through the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Reauthorized by Congress as part of the 2002 Farm Bill, EQIP offers technical assistance and possible cost-share dollars to implement crop tree release, timber stand improvement and tree planting activities on non-industrial forestlands. Crop tree release focuses on the landowner's objectives to improve the health, vigor and growth rate of trees that directly meet ownership objectives. Timber stand improvement (TSI) may involve removal of grape vines, non-native or exotic species or removal of undesirable tree species or trees with poor form or health.

### BONUS FOR LANDOWNERS IN THE GRAND RIVER WATERSHED

The USDA has recently announced that the Grand River watershed is among the first watersheds in the nation to be invited to participate in a historic new program designed to reward farmers & landowners for their long-term stewardship of natural resources. The new Conservation Security Program administered by the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service provides payments for producers and landowners who historically have practiced good stewardship on their agricultural lands. Contact Al Bonnis, District Conservationist at (440) 437-5888 for more information.

## NEW FEATURES FOR THE SPRING 2005 TREE SEEDLING SALE

Some changes have been made to the Lake County SWCD Tree Sale. New offerings, new packets, and new possibilities are all available to fill open areas in your landscaping next spring.

A new supplier has been chosen for wildflower seeds. They offer a blend of native Ohio grasses and forbs with native wildflowers. Each one-ounce packet of seeds contains 100% pure live seed of Ohio-grown native plants. These are great for naturalizing an area or for areas you don't like to mow.

We are also offering all of our trees in bulk. If a species is listed, even as part of a packet, you can order it in bulk quantities. Bulk orders will be in multiples of 50 per species and depend on availability. Please call the district office or download a bulk order form off of the web site.

There is a new packet being offered this year, tailored to homeowners who have smaller lots. The Homeowner's Packet contains three trees that will not soon dwarf a house. Blue spruces are upright, shapely trees with a classic bluish-tinged needle. Redbuds rarely exceed 30 feet tall, usually only reach 15 feet, but bloom early in the spring. Hawthorns reach 25-30 feet and have fragrant white flowers followed by small red fruits. All three species are tolerant of urban conditions.

We get quite a few questions about how the tree species are chosen, so hopefully this will shed a little light on the topic.

- ? Availability varies from year to year. Some trees are simply not available as bare-root seedlings in a certain year.
- ? Our emphasis is on native species. That way we know that they can survive local conditions and will not be an invasive species 20 years from now.
- ? Some species do not grow reliably from seed. Therefore we cannot guarantee a certain trait in the seedlings. Only 1 in 3 seeds from a pink flowering dogwood will result in a pink-flowered tree.

## LAKE SWCD HOSTS ANNUAL MEETING

On October 7th, Lake SWCD held its Annual Meeting and election at DeRubertis Party Center in Madison. Upon arrival, Lake County residents voted for one seat on the Lake SWCD Board of Supervisors. Guests then enjoyed a ham and turkey dinner buffet. Paris Wolf-Ferrante was elected to a three-year term to begin in January 2005.

Following dinner, the meeting was called to order. The guest speaker was Elaine Marsh, Project Director for Ohio Greenways. She gave a presentation on "Open Space Projects, Endless Benefits" outlining some of the positives that come out of greenway and open space projects.

Don Rogers was recognized for creating a conservation easement on his sister's property in Madison Township. The Nash Easement is along Arcola Creek, and includes wetlands areas. Willoughby, Willoughby Hills and Wickliffe were given Recognitions of Significant Environmental Legislation for passing ordinances to protect water quality. Contractor of the Year for 2004 was JTO, Inc. and Homebuilders of the Year were Regency Homes, Inc., and BR Knez Construction. Jack Crislip was also recognized for his lifetime contributions to conservation. A redbud tree was given to his family in his honor.

The meeting closed with the traditional door prize extravaganza.

## THANKS TO OUR DOOR PRIZE DONORS:

? Agora Gardens	? Lowe's	? Wyatt's
? APR Tool	? Mackenzie Nursery	Greenhouse
? Arcola Nursery	Supply	? Yardmaster
? Backyard Feeding	? Martin's Nursery	? Aqua America
Station (Madison)	? M.E. Enterprises	? Country Gourmet
? Capp's Tavern and	? Niedzialek Farm &	? Crile Road
Eatery	Crafts	Hardware
? C.M. Brown	? Ohio Wine	? Ferrante Winery
Nursery	Producers	? Giant Eagle,
? CT Consultants	Association	Painesville
? Holden Arboretum	? Rainbow Farms	? Joughin Hardware
? Klyn Nurseries	? Roemer Nursery	? Maple Ridge
? Lake County	? Sabo's Woodside	Nursery
Captains	Nursery	? Top's Friendly
? Lakeland Commu-	? Secor Nursery	Markets,
nity College	? Springlake Nursery	Painesville

## LOCAL BUSINESSES HONORED AT ANNUAL MEETING

At our annual meeting this past October, the District recognized three outstanding members of the construction community for their efforts toward protecting the water resources of Lake County in 2004.

**Contractor of the Year.** This year's award went to **JTO, Inc.** of Mentor, Ohio for their erosion and sediment control work on the Nature Preserve Subdivision, the Patriot Court Subdivision and the Amerihost Hotel project, all in Concord Township. They were also commended for their work on the Riverside Commons and Apollo Parkway projects in the City of Willoughby on Lost Nation Road. On both of these projects they displayed quality work combined with timely implementation of best management practices which led to very little discharge of sediment into the Grand and Chagrin River Watersheds.

**Homebuilders of the Year.** Two homebuilders were recognized this year for their outstanding work on all of their new home sites in Lake County. **BR Knez Construction** of Perry Township and **Regency Homes, Inc.** of Kirtland were congratulated for their diligent efforts in implementing erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices at new home sites in the Lake Erie Shores Subdivision in Painesville Township and the Ellison Creek and Noble Ridge Subdivisions in Concord Township. These homebuilders have set the standard of excellence in 2004 for protecting Lake County's water resources one home site at a time.

## USDA-NRCS ANNOUNCES SIGN UP FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced the sign up for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Applications are currently being accepted with the first collection period due in January, when applications will be ranked and selected for funding. Applications after January will be reviewed later in the year.

EQIP is a voluntary USDA conservation program for farmers and ranchers to treat soil, air, water, and related natural resource concerns on their working lands. EQIP will reimburse landowners from 50% to 75% for structural practices such as waste holding structures, heavy use pads, fencing, livestock ponds and other practices showing an environmental benefit. Incentive monies are also available for management

practices such as manure management plans, waste hauling, and precision farming. Landowners interested in waste structures are encouraged to apply early to complete the needed waste planning.

Locally, operations that have used this conservation funding include dairy and beef producers, horse stables, nurseries and other farm operations.

Those who wish to apply or to learn more about the program are invited to contact the Orwell USDA Service Center at 1-888-217-3947. Information about EQIP and other NRCS conservation programs is available on the Web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/>. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# SPRING 2005 TREE SEEDLING SALE LAKE COUNTY SWCD



Bare root trees and shrubs, ground cover, and native wildflowers for Northeast Ohio climate and soil conditions.



## BULK PACKETS

Ideal for planting large open areas, windbreaks or screens, these are single-species packets of trees, wildflowers, or groundcovers.

**White Pine** - 8-12" - Fast-growing to 100 feet or taller, soft, green needles. Will tolerate wide variety of soil conditions, good for ornamental and Christmas trees. 10 trees per packet.

**Blue Spruce** - 7-10" - A narrow, upright tree with potential to reach 100 ft, but usually much smaller in our area. Silver-blue foliage make this popular for foliage contrast.

**White Flowering Dogwood** - 2-3' - 20-40 feet in average to rich, moist soil. White flowers in the spring, red berries in the fall. Dark red to purple fall foliage. 5 trees per packet

**Pachysandra** - A fine evergreen ground cover. Locally grown and hardy. 1-year plants should cover in two years with 6" spacing. 50 plants per packet

**Native Wildflowers** - One-ounce packet of native Ohio wildflowers and forbs. Species selection researched in early literature to include only natives. Will cover 250 square feet

## HOMEOWNER'S PACKET

Selected for their smaller size and hardiness, these species are ideal for smaller properties and tight spaces. Three of each species per packet, 9 trees total.

**Blue Spruce** - 7-10" - A narrow, upright tree with potential to reach 100 ft, but usually much smaller in our area. Silver-blue foliage make this popular for foliage contrast.

**Hawthorn** - 18-24" - Small, sturdy tree with a tendency to spread out to the sides. Hawthorns rarely exceed 30 ft. Red, rose-like fruits in the fall, silvery bark.

**Redbud** - 2-3' - A very early bloomer with pink flowers long before the leaves emerge. Will reach 25 ft at maturity, and turn yellow in the fall. Does not do well on wet, heavy soils.

## FOREST HARDWOOD PACKET

These timber species are a great investment for the future as they reach 75' or higher. Three of each species per packet, 9 trees total.

**Sugar Maple** - 2-3' - Will grow to 100 feet, with outstanding fall colors. Sugar maples prefer sunny spots will well-drained, moist soils.

**Red Oak** - 2-3' - A quick-growing tree that can reach 100 feet. Red oaks hold leaves well into winter. Not tolerant of root disturbances.

**Tulip Poplar** - 2-3' - Broad, upright structure that will reach 100 feet. Tulip trees sport a large green and orange flower that is often overlooked until the petals are on the ground.

## FOREST NUT PACKET

A trio of trees with edible nuts. Once they mature, these trees can be harvested for human consumption, or left to attract wildlife. Three of each species per packet, 9 trees total.

**White Oak** - 2-3' - Slow-growing, rounded tree that will reach 80 feet. Likes clay soils, and will produce many mid-sized acorns.

**Black Walnut** - 2-3' - A fast-growing tree that prefers wet soils. Highly prized timber tree, as well as a good choice for attracting small mammals. Edible nuts.

**Shellbark Hickory** - 12-18" - This species also does well in moist soils, and develops a deep taproot. Will reach 80 feet tall, and can tolerate shade when young.

## STREAM AND POND PACKET

Chosen for their ability to thrive in wet places, these species are an excellent choice for stabilizing a stream bank, shading a pond, or adding trees to a wet area in your yard. Three of each species per packet, 9 trees total.

**Banker's Dwarf Willow** - 3' - A 5 foot spreading shrub. Good for stabilizing stream banks as the branches root where they touch the ground. Yellow fall color.

**Sycamore** - 2-3' - Easily recognized by its white bark, the sycamore often crowds wet areas and river corridors. A large tree that can reach over 80 feet tall with a 60 foot spread. Leaves also over-sized.

**Red-osier Dogwood** - 2-3' - A beautiful upright shrub with white blossoms in May, with deep red branches. Reaches heights of 6-10 ft. Used for erosion control, stream bank protection, and wildlife food.

## WILDLIFE PACKET

Species produce flowers and berries to attract wildlife to your yard. Birds or butterflies will be drawn to these plants throughout most of the year. Three of each species per packet, 9 trees total.

**Serviceberry** - 18-24" - Striking white flowers in spring, orange fall foliage. Serviceberry trees can be expected to reach 25-35 feet in height, with edible fruits that can be enjoyed by wildlife and humans alike.

**Butterfly Bush** - 18-24" - Fast-growing to 10-15' if not cut back. Blooms pink to purple in summer, attracts butterflies and hummingbirds

**Sargent Crabapple** - 2-3' - A horizontal growth structure and crabapples that remain into winter make this a great choice for attracting birds.

## BULK TREE ORDERS NEW THIS YEAR.

If you have a large area to cover, we are offering all of our species in bulk quantities (50 trees per species). Please contact the District office to request a bulk order form and inquire about availability.

# TREE SALE ORDER FORM

Qty	Description (# of plants)	Price	Total
_____	*White Pine (10)	\$ 8	_____
_____	*Blue Spruce (10)	\$ 8	_____
_____	*Flowering Dogwood (5)	\$ 8	_____
_____	Pachysandra (50)	\$ 12	_____
_____	Homeowners (9)	\$ 12	_____
_____	Forest Hardwood (9)	\$ 12	_____
_____	Forest Nut (9)	\$ 12	_____
_____	Stream and Pond (9)	\$ 14	_____
_____	Wildlife (9)	\$ 12	_____
_____	Bluebird House	\$ 8	_____
_____	Wren House	\$ 8	_____
_____	Wood Duck House	\$ 20	_____
_____	Bat House	\$ 10	_____
_____	Native Wildflower Seed Packet	\$ 10	_____
_____	Tree Flags (20)	\$ 1	_____
	Packaging charge	\$ 3	\$ 3
	Total Payment:		\$ _____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ (evening): \_\_\_\_\_



Cut here

1. Please fill out the order form above. Send check or money order to:

**Lake SWCD**  
**125 East Erie St.**  
**Painesville, OH 44077**

*Payment must accompany order to be guaranteed!*

2. Orders are available for pick-up on Friday, April 15th, 9am-6pm, and Saturday, April 16th, 9am-12pm at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Avenue.
3. The deadline for ordering is February 22, 2005, or until supplies are exhausted.
4. We reserve the right to make substitutions if necessary. If ordering close to the deadline, please call prior to placing your order to confirm availability.

5. The plants are nursery inspected to be disease-free. Lake SWCD cannot be responsible for their survival after they have been distributed.

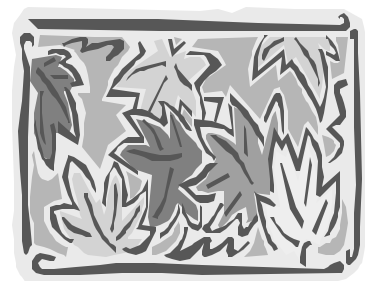
6. The District cannot be responsible for any orders that are not picked up. Please make arrangements for someone to pick up your trees if you are not able to do so. Seedling packets are approximately the size of a grocery bag, so they will transport easily in your car.

7. Planting instructions will be available at pick up.

**\*8. A 10% discount will be applied when ordering 100+ trees of the same species, in the bulk category. Please call in advance for availability when making large orders.**

## Important information:

- ☞ Place orders by February 22, 2005
- ☞ Pay with a check or money order payable to Lake SWCD
- ☞ Pick up trees April 15 from 9 AM to 6 PM or April 16 from 9 AM to Noon
- ☞ Pick up trees at Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Ave.
- ☞ Save bottom portion for your reference
- ☞ Please call the SWCD office with any questions: (440)350-2730
- ☞ Do not use this form for bulk orders other than those listed above.



## WINTER STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

As winter approaches, and rain turns to snow, it is still important to consider storm water pollution. Pollutants can collect in the snow pack, accumulating until a thaw suddenly dumps them into the stormwater system and carries them into the local surface waters. A few things you can do around the house will help to minimize the problem.

**Winterizing vehicles.** Check that your car is not leaking oil or other fluids. It takes only a small amount of motor oil to pollute thousands of gallons of water. Also dispose of drained fluids properly. Many service stations will collect used motor oil and recycle it. Do not dump these items down the storm drains.

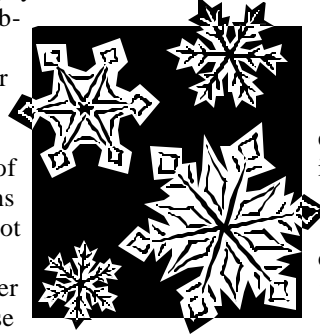
**Washing vehicles.** On a warm winter day, you may be tempted to break out the hose and bucket to get some of the road grime off of your car. Take a moment to see where that runoff is going. Does it wash down the driveway and into the storm drain? If so, all that salt and dirt will enter a stream or pond. Using a car wash facility may cost a few dollars more, but the water will be treated before being released into the watershed.

**De-icing driveways and sidewalks.** While it may be habit to stock up on salt for the winter, many people would not consider dumping a bucket of salt on their lawn in

the summer. But the results are similar. Salt runs off of your sidewalk and onto the surrounding soil. If the soil is frozen, then the brine can reach storm drains and surface water. There are several products and techniques that can

decrease the amount of pollution reaching the aquatic ecosystem. Anti-icing involves treating the surfaces before the snow or ice forms. Since the snow melts as it falls, it does not bind to the surface and melts more quickly. Consider more environmentally-friendly deicing products, using clean sand for traction, or the old-fashioned snow shovel. Remember to check the effective temperatures for any de-icing product you choose to apply. Most products have a minimum temperature and will not melt ice below that point.

**Winter Recreation.** Whether you choose to take to the trail on skis or snowmobiles, be aware of the impact that you have on the ground beneath you. There should be at least 6 inches of snow on the ground for ski or snowshoe travel, 9 inches for motorized vehicles. Soil erosion problems can develop quickly if winter recreation hits ground level, especially on steeper slopes. To avoid problems, avoid areas where the snow is not deep or any place you can see soil in the snow.



## WATERSHED WATCH LEAVES STUDENTS WITH WET FEET

In September, over 400 students from across Lake County got their feet wet in the world of water quality evaluation. They took field trips to their local park and worked with Lake SWCD staff to learn about the steps involved in collecting macroinvertebrates as an indicator of water quality. Many of the students will take the data they gathered back to the classroom, and use it along with results from previous years to chart water quality trends at their sampling location. Classroom teachers use stream quality monitoring to teach biological diversity, scientific research techniques, data analysis, chemistry, and ecology, as well as math and graphing data. Ohio Department of Natural Resources uses the data collected by these schools to contribute to a yearly report on the scenic rivers of Lake County.



## TRI-COUNTY ENVIROTHON HELD AT PENITENTIARY GLEN

On October 4th, one hundred fifty-five students participated in the 2004 Tri-County Envirothon, sponsored by Lake, Ash-tabula and Geauga SWCDs. This is a one-day event that helps high school Envirothon teams prepare for competition in the spring. Students split up into teams and meet with resource people from various local organizations. They come to gather information and talk with people who work in forestry, aquatics, soils and wildlife, as well as those who work to preserve cultural landscapes. In May, many of these schools will send teams to Northeast Ohio Envirothon competition. Many thanks to the resource people and volunteers who made the day a great success, as well as Lake Metroparks Penitentiary Glen for opening their facility to the students.



## WHO WANTS TO BE A CONSERVATIONIST?

An all-plant edition involving the tree seedling species from this year's sale. Match the species name to the description. Answers are on page 5

1. A small tree with small green flowers, surrounded by petal-like white bracts
2. Fast-growing conifer with soft needles in bundles of 5
3. Water-loving small tree or shrub with smooth, red bark and white berries
4. A tall, nut-bearing tree that has rounded lobes on the leaves
5. Valuable timber tree that also produces edible, though hard to open nuts with a fleshy coating
6. Tall, upright tree with large flowers and a very straight trunk. Related to the magnolias
7. Small tree with red fruits and occasionally, long thorns
8. A cultivar developed to produce many fruits that remain on the branches through most of the winter, a favorite of birds
9. Low-growing plant that spreads quickly, sweet-smelling and named for its thick stamens
10. White spring flowers lead to an edible fruit on this tree, especially well-known in the Canadian plains.
11. Tendency for branches to root when they touch the ground makes this small tree great for stabilizing stream banks
12. Not native to Ohio, but a popular conifer in landscaping due to its color and texture.

A. Hawthorn	G. Colorado Blue Spruce
B. Serviceberry	H. White Oak
C. Red-osier Dogwood	I. Black Walnut
D. White Flowering Dogwood	J. White Pine
E. Sargent Crabapple	K. Pachysandra
F. Banker's Dwarf Willow	L. Tulip Poplar

## LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

125 E. Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

•440-350-2730 (main number) •FAX 440-350-2601

Toll-free •298-3334 ext. 2730 Madison/Perry

•918-2730 Cleveland/Western Lake County

•1-800-899-LAKE outside Lake County only

*Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am-4:00 pm*

•E-mail: [soil@lakecountyohio.org](mailto:soil@lakecountyohio.org)

•Web site: [www.lakecountyohio.org/soil](http://www.lakecountyohio.org/soil)

PAM BROWN, District Secretary/Treasurer	350-2730
DAN DONALDSON, District Administrator	350-2030
CHAD EDGAR, Urban Stream Specialist	350-2032
BETH LANDERS, Education/Information Coordinator	350-2033
BRETT RODSTROM, Storm Water Specialist	350-2092
MATTHEW SCHARVER, Resource Protection Technician	350-2031
AL BONNIS, District Conservationist, NRCS	350-2730
JOHN NIEDZIALEK, Western Reserve RC&D Coordinator	350-2034

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CAROL FLECK (1995), PAINESVILLE, TREASURER

RICHARD BAKER (1997), MADISON, CHAIR

DWAYNE BAILEY (2003), MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE, FISCAL AGENT

RON MAUK (2004), MENTOR, VICE CHAIR

STEPHANIE BERES (2004), CONCORD, SECRETARY

### MEMBER OF:

- American Farmland Trust
- Lake County Farm Bureau
- Nursery Growers of Lake County, Inc.
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

### AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All Lake SWCD and USDA programs and services are available without regard to race, age, gender, national origin, political beliefs, color, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

**The public is invited to attend Lake SWCD's monthly Board meetings,** held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at 125 East Erie St., Painesville. Meeting announcements appear under the public agenda in the News-Herald. Please call in advance to let us know you will be attending.

Lake County Soil & Water  
Conservation District  
125 East Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

Non-profit org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Painesville OH  
Permit #830

Return Service Requested